

Message Text

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY SANTO DOMINGO IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 130194

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINS, PINT, DR

SUBJECT: GODR CASE FOR ALLEGED PRD FRAUD

1. AMBASSADOR HURWITCH RECEIVED THIS MORNING A COMMUNICATION FROM BELLO ANDINO ACCOMPANIED BY AN ANALYSIS OF ALLEGED PRD FRAUD, TWO LEGAL DOCUMENTS FROM THE REFORMISTA PARTY OF LA VEGA AND NAGUA RESPECTIVELY TESTIFYING TO FRAUD, AND TWO VIDEOTAPES OF A RECENT INTERVIEW WITH "VINITO" CASTILLO ON TV PROGRAM "UD. SEA EL JURADO". HURWITCH UNDERSTANDS THAT MESSAGE AND DOCUMENTS FORWARDED WITH KNOWLEDGE OF PRESIDENT BALAGUER. HURWITCH, OF COURSE, TURNED EVERYTHING OVER TO APPROPRIATE ARA OFFICER.

2. BELLO'S LETTER MAKES FOLLOWING POINTS: THE GODR IS CONFRONTED WITH AN EVENTUAL FRAUD OF SIGNIFICANT PROPORTION; THE PRESIDENT IS AWARE OF THESE IRREGULARITIES AND IS DEEPLY CONCERNED OVER PRESSURE HE IS RECEIVING
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FROM THE U.S.; THE TRUE ELECTION RESULTS WILL BE RESPECTED; AND THE GODR IS CAMPAIGNING AMONG ITS FRIENDS TO COUNTER-ACT THE UNJUST AND PREJUDICIAL CAMPAIGN AGAINST IT AND WHICH DOES NOT CORRESPOND TO THE TRUTH.

3. ACCOMPANYING BELLO'S LETTER IS A FIVE-PAGE ANALYSIS, THE CORE OF WHICH CONTAINS THE FOLLOWING POINTS: IN

MAKING UP THE ELIGIBLE VOTER LISTS FOR THE VOTING PLACES (MESAS), DR. JOSE SILIE GATON, HEAD OF THE ELECTORAL REGISTRY, LICDA. NERY CABRERA, CHIEF OF THE ELECTRONIC DEPARTMENT, AND ING. J. DIECHS, ALL APPARENT MEMBERS OF THE PRD, EXCLUDED A CONSIDERABLE NUMBER OF REFORMISTA VOTERS BY TRANSFERRING THEM TO OTHER MESAS IN THE CITY OR OTHER LOCALITIES UNKNOWN TO THE VOTERS CONCERNED; TO ACCOMPLISH THIS, THEY HAD REFERRED TO THE 1974 ELECTORAL LISTS IN WHICH VIRTUALLY ONLY THE NAMES OF PRD VOTERS HAD APPEARED SINCE THE OPPOSITION HAD ABSTAINED, WITH EXCEPTION OF THE LAJARA BURGOS SPLINTER GROUP; THE NAMES OF VOTERS TRANSFERRED TO OTHER MESAS WERE OLDER THAN THIRTY-FIVE, THE AGE GROUP WHERE THE REFORMISTAS PREDOMINATE; ALTHOUGH THE JCE ANNOUNCED IN THE AFTERNOON OF THE VOTING DAY THAT VOTERS COULD VOTE AT THE MESAS INDICATED BY THEIR IDENTIFICATION CARDS, THE JCE DECISION WAS INOPERATIVE BECAUSE THE MAJORITY OF THE PRESIDENTS OF THE MESAS PAID NO ATTENTION TO IT AND BECAUSE MANY VOTERS BECAME CONFUSED AND HAD RETURNED HOME WITHOUT VOTING; EXAMPLES ARE LA VEGA WHERE 26,000 INSCRIBED FAILED TO VOTE AND MAGUA WHERE 55 PERCENT FAILED TO DO SO (DOCUMENTS ACCOMPANY); OTHER INFORMATION INDICATES THAT IN COTUI 13,000 PERSONS WERE UNABLE TO VOTE, IN PUERTO PLATA MORE THAN 12,000 AND IN SANTO DOMINGO ABOUT 150,000; THIS FUNDAMENTAL IRREGULARITY BECOMES MORE ACUTE IN THE PARTS OF THE COUNTRY WHERE

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THE MESAS ARE MORE DISTANT FROM ONE ANOTHER; A CONSERVATIVE CALCULATION OF THE RESULTS OF THIS FORCED ABSTENTION RESULTING FROM THIS FRAUDULENT MANEUVER WOULD SIGNIFICANTLY AFFECT THE FINAL VOTING RESULTS. COMPLEMENTING THE FOREGOING, THE FOLLOWING SHOULD BE CONSIDERED: THE PRD PUBLISHED A POLL DONE BY CIMERS DECLARING THEM THE WINNER BY A LARGE MARGIN; THE PRESIDENT OF IMPRESORA CORPORAN IS UNDER INVESTIGATION BY THE POLICE FOR ALLEGEDLY HAVING PRINTED ONE MILLION MORE PRD BALLOTS THAN ORDERED; THE HEAD OF CIMERS LUIS AUGUSTO CAMINERO LEFT FOR VENEZUELA PRIOR TO THE ELECTIONS AS DID CARLOS PEREZ RICART, A PRD CONGRESSIONAL CANDIDATE AND BUSINESS ASSOCIATE IN IMPRESORA CORPORAN; AND FINALLY THE JCE IS INVESTIGATING THE POSSIBILITY THAT VOTES FAVORING THE PRD WERE SUBSTITUTED FOR THOSE WHO WERE UNABLE TO VOTE BECAUSE OF IRREGULARITIES IN THE LISTS.

4. DEPT. ASSUMES EMBASSY KNOWS CONTENT TV SHOW IN WHICH CASTILLO APPEARED.

5. COMMENT: BELLO MESSAGE AND DOCUMENTS INDICATE THAT

AT LEAST ONE LINE OF GODR THINKING IS NOT REPEAT NOT
TO ACCEPT THE ELECTION RESULTS AS HONEST AND IS
PREPARING THE GROUND FOR SUCH A POSTURE.

6. AMBASSADOR HURWITCH, WITH DEPT. APPROVAL, IS SENDING
ORAL MESSAGE TO BELLO THAT THERE IS WIDESPREAD BELIEF
IN USG, PRESS AND OTHER SECTORS KNOWLEDGEABLE ABOUT
DR THAT PRD APPEARS TO BE WINNING THE ELECTION AND
THAT THERE IS DEEP CONCERN AND EXPECTATION AT THE
HIGHEST LEVELS THAT THE ELECTION COUNT BE HONEST AND
HONORED IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE DOMINICAN CONSTITUTIONAL
PROCESSES.

7. DOCUMENTS BEING POUCHED. VANCE
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